

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-10 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11
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R 061725Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6510
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1054

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: GY, UR, PDIP
SUBJECT: DETAILS ON PRIMIN BURNHAM'S SOVIET VISIT

REF: GEORGETOWN 1032

1. GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED GUYANA CHRONICLE FOR APRIL 6 PROVIDES ADDITIONAL PUBLIC DETAILS OF PRIMIN BURNHAM'S FORTH-COMING TRIP TO THE USSR. ACCORDING TO THE CHRONICLE BURNHAM INTENDS TO VISIT THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, AND THE UK, IN THAT ORDER AFTER A WEEK-LONG VISIT TO THE USSR. HE IS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE ON APRIL 11 AND RETURN TO GEORGETOWN ON MAY 5.

2. THE PRIMIN'S OFFICIAL PARTY FOR HIS TRIP WILL INCLUDE HIS WIFE, VIOLA BURNHAM; SASE NARAIN, SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY; DESMOND HOYTE, MINISTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATIVES; HUBERT JACK, MINISTER OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES; MOHAMED
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SHAHABUDDEEN, MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL,
AND OSCAR CLARKE, REGIONAL MINISTER FOR EAST BERBICE.

3. THE PRESENCE OF HOYTE AND JACK INDICATES THAT BURNHAM WILL BE TALKING ABOUT FOREIGN ASSISTANCE DURING HIS FOUR STOPS. THE FACT THAT MINISTER OF JUSTICE SHAHABUDDEEN IS INCLUDED LENDS SUBSTANCE TO RUMORS WE

HAVE BEEN HEARING THAT BURNHAM INTENDS TO DISCUSS HIS DRAFT CONSTITUTION WITH THE SOVIETS. (SHAHABUDDEEN IS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL DRAFTERS OF THE NEW CHARTER.)

4. THE VISIT TO NORTH KOREA IS IN RESPONSE TO AN INVITATION TENDERED BY KIM IL SUNG IN 1976. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN RUMORS THAT BURNHAM IS ATTRACTED BY THE KOREAN PRESIDENT'S "CULT OF PERSONALTY," AND THAT HE MAY BE INTERESTED IN INCORPORATING KOREAN CONCEPTS INTO HIS NEW CONSTITUTION. FINALLY, ARTICLE INDICATES THAT BURNHAM WILL BE MEETING WITH PRIMER CALLAGHAN ON THE LAST STOP OF HIS 24-DAY TRIP.
BURKE

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